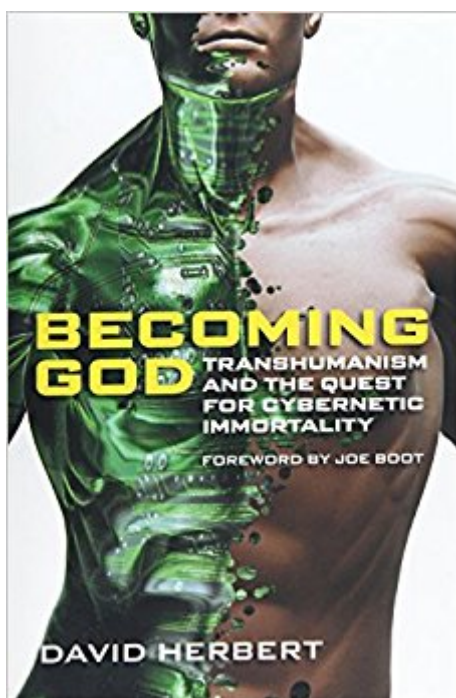


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Becoming God: Transhumanism And The Quest For Cybernetic Immortality



Synopsis

Transhumanism is a growing philosophical movement among leading business leaders, scientists, artists, politicians and futurists. They believe that the future of humanity lies in a post-human world. In *Becoming God*, David Herbert traces the philosophic and scientific roots of this movement, through the changes brought with The Enlightenment, the Victorian era, religious humanism and secular humanism, leading to the rise of transhumanism. Profiling the key world figures in this movement-Ray Kurzweil, Aubrey de Grey, Kevin Warwick, Natasha Vita-More, Nigel Ackland, FM-2030, and others-he explores their views, both common and unique, on aspects of transhumanist philosophy. Since the dawn of time, humankind has desired to be immortal-to "be like God." This book reveals how changing worldviews, advancing technologies, entrenched scientific beliefs and rapidly expanding biotechnologies have led some to believe that immortality is on the horizon. Shunning death and disease, transhumanists are pursuing a future devoid of these realities and believe humankind is on the cusp of immortality-a pivotal moment they call the "Singularity." Having analyzed and researched this movement, Dr. Herbert shows how the Christian's hope of immortality is the resurrection, a foundational biblical truth-and one that looks to a new, imperishable, glorious and powerful body to come when Christ returns. The Christian view of the body (made in God's image), disease and death (the results of living in a sinful world) look to a future resurrection, where believers will be given perfect, immortal bodies, once more united to their souls and spirits. The Christian's hope is not for immortality on this earth but in the new heavens and new earth.

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Humanism

Customer Reviews

This book is advertised as a piece of scholarship on transhumanism yet is in fact nothing but a Christian apologetic. While I have no problem with the author believing whatever dogma he chooses, if his only argument against transhumanism is simply that it offends his dogma then this should be stated in the description of the book. I stopped reading after the first chapter when the author started bemoaning the downfall of civilization ever since the theories of Darwin and the enlightenment. Looking for a refund, the reason I gave was "offensive material" as this book offends me as a secular scholar who was deceived.

The latest book by Dr Herbert is a winner. He documents the movement called transhumanism, whose goal is the application of technology to achieve a reality beyond that of the human body. Clearly this goal is hope misplaced that causes humans to ignore, or even reject, the real answer to the issues transhumanism hopes to solve. He covers not only the history of the movement but also the antichristian motivations of the leaders. Dr Herbert also documents the fallacious thinking that drives the movement

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